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DIRECTORATE OF
INTELLIGENCE

WEEKLY SUMMARY

AGENCY ARCHIVES

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ANTI-SUKARNO CAMPAIGN ACCELERATES IN INDONESIA

The anti-Sukarno campaign in Indonesia has accelerated, partly as the result of arrests of more persons involved in the October 1965 coup attempt.

Among those recently arrested were Brig. Gen. Supardjo, a Communist and key coup plotter, and Anwar Sanusi, a member of the Communist Party's central committee and a candidate member of its politburo. Not only is Supardjo reported to be talking freely--and presumably further implicating Sukarno in the coup attempt--but the army also has firm evidence that Sukarno actively assisted Supardjo to evade capture.

Other arrests in the armed forces apparently resulted from the circumstances surrounding Supardjo's capture and from his subsequent interrogation. At least 53 officers--30 army, 11 navy, 7 air force, and 5 police--have been bagged.

The current wave of anti-Sukarno activity includes student and political party protests ranging from demands that the President be investigated to calls for his execution. Sukarno's involvement in the events of October 1965 has been further publicized, while high officials have made demands for "action against the old order." Foreign Minister Malik has twice called upon Sukarno to resign, and twice in the past week General Suharto, the regime's leader, has stated that those who do not acknowledge their errors will face "action."

General Suharto, although under continuing pressure to act more rapidly and directly, remains committed to using only legal means against Sukarno. The attorney general announced on 23 January that he would soon submit to Suharto all details relating to Sukarno's involvement in the attempted coup. Suharto in turn will pass relevant information to the congress for action when it convenes in March or April.

By the time congress meets, Suharto probably will have decided what specific measures to recommend to end what remains of Sukarno's power. He hopes to avoid bloodshed, and apparently will insist on some sort of constitutional "dethronement" with overt power-plays held to a minimum.

The US Embassy in Djakarta believes that Sukarno may be allowed to remain a figurehead after signing his power away. It estimates that even his complete removal is no longer likely to provoke dangerous politico-military repercussions. Isolated and temporary disturbances, however, remain possible in East and Central Java.

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